



JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY

Northern Mariana Islands State Library



Est. Dec. 1991

P.O. BOX 501092, SAIPAN, MP 96950 • PHONE: (670) 235-7322/23 • FAX (670) 235-7550

Website: www.marianaslibrary.org • E-Mail: cnmistatelibrary@gmail.com

June 13, 2015

CC Docket 02-6

To Whom It May Concern:

Entity and BEN	Commonwealth Public Library aka Joeten Kiyu Public Library / 154966
Contact Person	Erlinda C. Naputi
Contact Information	P.O. Box 501092 Saipan, MP 96950 (670)235-7322 / 235-7316 ecnaputi@gmail.com Accepted / Filed JUN 17 2015
Funding Year	FY 2015 Federal Communications Commission
Application Type and Number	FORM 471 Application Number 1052075 Office of the Secretary
FRN	2873634, 2873635, 2873636, 2873639, 3873638, 2873640, 2873641, 2873642, 2873632, 2873643, 2873644, 2873645, 2873646, 2873647, 2873648, 2873649, 2873650, 2873651, 2873652, 2873633
Appeal Reason	Late filing DOCKET FILE COPY 05/23/2015

Entity and BEN	Joeten Kiyu Public Library Bookmobile / 16066409
Contact Person	Erlinda C. Naputi
Contact Information	P.O. BOX 501092 Saipan, MP 96950 (670)235-7322 / 235-7316 ecnaputi@gmail.com
Funding Year	FY2015
Application Type and Number	FORM 471 Application Number 1052072
FRN	2873625, 2873626
Appeal Reason	Late Filing

Entity and BEN	Rota Public Library / 16066180
Contact Person	Erlinda C. Naputi
Contact Information	P.O. BOX 501092 Saipan, MP 96950 (670)235-7322 / 235-7316 ecnaputi@gmail.com
Funding Year	FY 2015
Application Type and Number	FORM 471 Application Number 1052073
FRN	2873628, 2873627
Appeal Reason	Late Filing

No. of Copies rec'd 091
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I am seeking a waiver for E-rate application numbers 1052072, 1052073, 1052075, which I filed late. Both Forms 470 and Forms 471 have been completed for all three entities; however, Form 471 was filed outside of the filing window. I am requesting an appeal to extend the filing window for Commonwealth Public Library aka Joeten Kiyu Public Library due to sudden change of leadership. Former Executive Director left without properly handing off his responsibilities in regards to the USAC E-Rate program and other sensitive matters. Administrative Officer received form 470 but fail to handover documents to current management. After his departure, we had no access to Director's office as the key to open director's office was also not turned in. On May 07, 2015, Investigators from Office of Public Auditor assisted us on retrieving the key to access director's office, unfortunately his office was empty, desktop computer and tablet assigned to former executive director were erased.

I tried my best to retrieve all data, files, applications, and also tried to gain access to emails, pertaining to CNMI State Library, which includes Joeten Kiyu Public Library, Rota Public Library, and Joeten Kiyu Public Library Bookmobile Program and other documents needed but to no avail.

Although it was after the deadline, I took necessary steps to submit Forms 471 the moment I found out about e-rate situation. I also had issues with submitting application number 1052075 (see attached error message) but with the assistance of local agencies and U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, I was put in contact with the appropriate agency to assist us on certifying our forms 471.

Attached are newspaper articles pertaining to the departure of JKPL's Former Executive Director John Oliver DLR. Gonzales, and emails regarding access to important documents such as E-rate.

Under circumstances beyond my control, I am humbly asking for your consideration on waiving our deadline for submission for Forms 471 for application 1052075, 1052072, and 1052073.

Should you have any questions or need clarification, I can be reached at (670)235-7316 or (670)285-7464 or email ecnaputi@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Erlinda C. Naputi
Acting Library Director



Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

ACCESS TO DIRECTOR'S FILES AND PASSWORDS TO JKPL'S LOGINS

3 messages

Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 27, 2015 at 6:00 AM

To: Rufin Inos <rufininos@gmail.com>

Good morning Rufin,

I am currently working on COMPETITIVE Grant application which is due on April 01, 2015. This grant pays for Bookmobile program and two staff under the program. GONZALES left without informing us on deadline and it's okay, we can work on it. But I do need your help.

I need access to Executive Director's file to retrieve all documents pertaining to this grant.

We need access to SAM - System Administrator Management, a Federal Program website to get updates on Grants.. According to Jeni, GONZALES has all documents and password and recommends I ask Library Council to assist retrieve these informations..

CHAIRMAN Rufin, I need access to his office, important informations, documentations that I need to work are all in his computer.

He stepped down 2 weeks ago, he still has not vacate his office, he still has his keys to JKPL, therefore, he still has access to JKPL. I need to protect JKPL'S interest, we can't have disgruntled Former Executive Director have access to our facility.. he's informed us that he will be taking back the couch/sofa that he personally donated to JKPL a year ago. This just demonstrates his anger towards JKPL. He knows donation policy, once you donate personal property to JKPL, then it belongs to JKPL.

I hope you look into this matter asap as deadline is fast approaching

Thank you for taking time off your busy schedule to assist us. I hope to hear from you soon.

Erlinda

—
Erlinda Cabrera Naputi, Librarian II
JKPL - Children of Our Homeland Center
(670)235-7316



"The more that you READ, the more THINGS you will KNOW. The more that you LEARN, the more PLACES you'll GO." -Dr Seuss

Rufin Inos <rufininos@gmail.com>
To: Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 27, 2015 at 10:17 AM

Erlinda,

I just spoke with John a few minutes ago, and there are some things I need to talk to you about. I feel it would be better to discuss over the phone. As far as I am concerned, there seems to be no retaliation involved, but I need to discuss certain matters with you ASAP.

Also, I have read through the email and was made aware that I am now Acting Chairman of the Library Council. With that said, I think now would be the best time to go ahead and initiate procedure to have you compensated for the one week AWOL this past November. Please let me know what I need to sign in order to ensure that you are compensated quickly.

Thanks,

Rufin

[Quoted text hidden]

—
Rufin Inos Jr.

Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>
To: Rufin Inos <rufininos@gmail.com>

Thu, May 7, 2015 at 11:16 AM

[Quoted text hidden]



Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

E - RATE Status

6 messages

Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 29, 2015 at 9:14 AM

To: Jennifer Rospel <jkpl.admin@gmail.com>, Omar Manacop <jkplitc@gmail.com>

Good Morning Jeni,

As per our conversation yesterday morning in regards to e-rate. I need the answer for the following.. And if there is anything else you know that can assist us on addressing this ASAP.

1. IN the past 2 years, what was the procedure on submitting the e-rate application on line?
2. Who is in charge of submitting the applications/renewal?
2. Who has access to to USAC (erate) account?
3. What email account was used when applications were submitted?
4. Do you have access to this USAC / e-rate online?

I am working with Joe Torres of PSS and he needs all documentations submitted to USAC. Could you please furnish me a copy of all e-rate transactions ASAP?

—
Erlinda Cabrera Naputi, Librarian II
JKPL - Children of Our Homeland Center
(670)235-7316



"The more that you READ, the more THINGS you will KNOW. The more that you LEARN, the more PLACES you'll GO." -Dr Seuss

Jennifer Rospel <jkpl.admin@gmail.com>

Wed, Apr 29, 2015 at 4:42 PM

To: Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Lyn,

Here are the answers to your questions:

1. The library director will instruct me when to apply the e-rate showing the email that he received from USAC.
2. ITC Coordinator should be in charge of applying/renewing the erate
3. Mr. Gonzales has the access to the USAC account since Mr. Gonzales activated the erate application, library is using his johnogonzales@gmail.com email.
4. Everybody can go to USAC website.

I could give your the complete erate file for 2015.

Thanks.

Jennifer D. Rospel
Administrative Officer
Joeten Kiyu Public Library
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O.Box 501092
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: 670-235-7318
Cellphone: 670-287-7318
Fax: 670-235-7550

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[Quoted text hidden]

Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>
To: Jennifer Rospel <jkpl.admin@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 12, 2015 at 12:44 PM

Jeni,

I am currently working on an appeal's letter to ask for a waiver on our e rate forms 471 with FCC.

As you mentioned in your earlier email,

"1. The library director will instruct me when to apply the e-rate showing the email that he received from USAC."

You acknowledge received form 470 on March 16, 2015, filing deadline was on April 17, 2015. There was an opportunity of a month to file our e-rate forms 471, why wasn't it done?

"2. ITC Coordinator should be in charge of applying/renewing the erate"

Information needed to file 471 are all included in forms 470, Omar did not have access to these forms.

"3. Mr. Gonzales has the access to the USAC account since Mr. Gonzales activated the erate application, library is using his johnogonzales@gmail.comemail."

You kept in contact with Mr. Gonzales during the affected period, why didn't you ask him information pertaining to e-rate?

"4. Everybody can go to USAC website."

Yes, you are absolutely right, everybody can go to USAC website, the question is does everyone has ACCESS TO our forms?

IN closing, you said you could give me the erate file for 2015. Why did you wait til after the due date to give me these time sensitive documents?

Could you please explain how and why did we miss the deadline on filing erate forms 471 for JKPL, RPL, and Bookmobile?

Thank you..

[Quoted text hidden]

Jennifer Rospel <jkpl.admin@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 12, 2015 at 2:25 PM

To: Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Reply to the following questions:

1. I am not aware that the filing deadline was April 17, 2015 for Form 471??? As I stated from my previous correspondence to you that I only received instructions from the Library Director when to apply for a certain Forms. The Library Director will email me the USAC reminders for the next phase of applications. During this time, I never received any email or instructions, though I'd asked him if there is any advice from USAC and he said, he never received anything yet....
 2. Who is in charge of submitting the applications/renewal? The ITC Coordinator is in charge of applying or renewing ERATE, this was during Roy Rechebei and I am assisting and providing Roy Rechebei information to all the telephone lines.
- Some information with regards to applicant were in Form 470, however in Form 471, you'll need all the cost for each features of all the phone lines. Omar don't have any information on these as he needs to get it from me or get all the phone bills. It is my understanding that USAC will advice or instruct thru email all applicants that the window to submit Form 471 has been opened. As I've said before, I asked the Library Director if ever he received any email from USAC with regards to Form 471, and he said nothing yet..
3. I'd asked him if he received any advice from USAC, his response is nothing yet....
 4. You mentioned that you were working with Joe Torres of PSS, so in good faith and intention, I offered to give you the 2015 Erate Folder for your reference in filing the Erate. I did not deliberately hold this folder..

If you still need more clarifications, please let me know.

Jennifer D. Rospel
Administrative Officer
Joeten Kiyu Public Library
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O.Box 501092
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Fax: 670-235-7550

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[Quoted text hidden]

Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 12, 2015 at 6:06 PM

To: Jennifer Rospel <jkpl.admin@gmail.com>

FYI Jeni,

The file you had in your possession was the file we needed to in order to file form 471. Had you given the file to me when you received them on March 16, I could've filed the forms myself. Because you withheld this folder, we were not able to file on time.

I need to explain to FCC the reason we missed deadline.

Thank you for the clarification.

Sincerely.

[Quoted text hidden]

Erlinda Naputi <ecnaputi@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 12, 2015 at 6:36 PM

To: Omar Manacop <jkplite@gmail.com>

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Marianas Variety

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75¢



Lawyers discuss
possible national
disposition
of military bases
PAGE 5

2015

Get ready!
The sheep
are coming
PAGE 8

Public library personnel walk out; seek to oust Gonzales

By Raquel C. Bagnol
raquel@mvariety.com
& Charrie Anne E. Villahermosa
charrie@mvariety.com
Variety News Staff

JOETEN-KIYU Public Library patrons yesterday were surprised to see its doors closed and its employees outside in the parking lot.

They staged a "walk out" five minutes before the library was to open at 10 a.m., saying "they can no longer bear the climate of fear" created by the public library's executive director, John O. Gonzales.

"He walks in and everybody just 'quakes' because we know he is going to berate us in front of everybody and tell us we are failures. He threatens to give us low performance ratings and fire us from our jobs," the employees said.

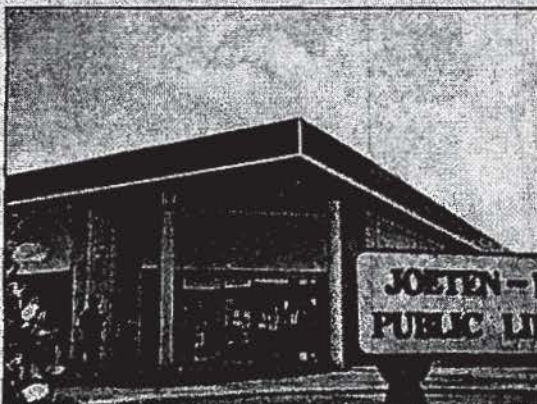
They have asked the administration to fire Gonzales.

The library, they added, used to be open to everybody.

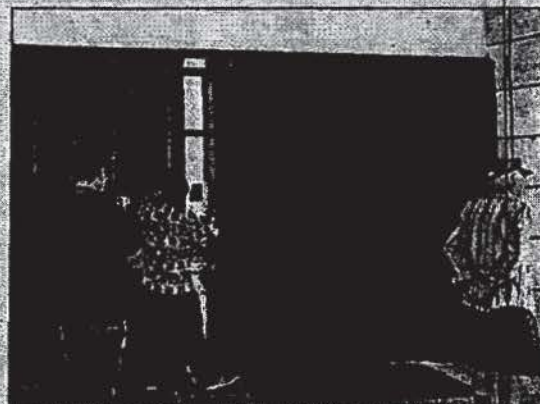
"But when he came in, everything is done behind closed doors and only he and his secretary know what's going on and we are left in the dark."

More issues
The employees said they were

Continued on page 2



Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, which opens at 10, remained closed at 11 a.m. yesterday.
Photos by Raquel C. Bagnol



Library staffer Ray Deleon Guerrero closes the doors of the library yesterday morning.



A library patron uses the book drop to return library materials.



Joeten-Kiyu Public Library employees gather in the parking lot.

MMA fighter arrested near airport for 'ice' possession

By Andrew D. De Guzman
andrew@mvariety.com
Variety News Staff
GEORGE Yoshimoto "Kamikaze" Manglona Jr., 31, was arrested

while trying to flee police officers near the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport and in possession of 10.1 grams "ice" on Monday afternoon.

A mixed martial arts fighter, Manglona was arrested on charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance after authorities recovered four bags containing a crystal-

line substance from a small black handbag found in his possession. He was about to depart for Tinian at the time of his arrest, court records show.

On Feb. 2, 2015, Superior Court Judge Joseph N. Camacho authorized

Continued on page 2

Public

Continued from page 1

afraid to talk and thought that nobody would listen to them.

"We felt we were being suffocated and, this morning, we decided that we have had enough," they added.

The employees claimed that Gonzales will not even allow them to eat

lunch together, or get together after work. They said he calls them even after office hours.

They are likewise questioning "unexplained purchases" that Gonzales made, including an oversized grinding stone, and \$2,000 worth of coconut crab carvings which none of us ever saw.

The employees added, "We are professionals and he treats us like children and it affects our perfor-

mance at work. We used to look forward going to work every morning but he likes to bully us, and he berates and criticizes us for our work. We are stressed out and even get nightmares thinking about work."

They said Gonzales makes frequent off-island trips for "training" but "he never tells us about what he learned."

"We love the library and would love to continue serving our constituents but we can't do it effectively with the climate of fear that Gonzales creates," the employees said.

The library has 12 employees. One resigned in December and another who just gave birth was given three weeks of leave but was later "encouraged to resign so she wouldn't be terminated."

Children's associate librarian Erlinda Naputi has been with the library for 23 years while technical services librarian Rosalyn Ajoste has been with the library for the past 13 years and is the first certified librarian in eight years.

Circulation manager Ray Deleon Guerrero has been with the library for seven years; Celina Foreman, eight years.

The employees said all they want is change.

Library patron Jeff Race said he was surprised when he saw the library doors closed at about 11 a.m. yesterday.

"The library is my biggest source of reading material. I know they are usually open at 10 o'clock and it's a Wednesday. I am disappointed because I can't get a book. The library is a valuable resource for our people and an important part of the community," Race said.

Dean, who said he recently arrived on Saipan, was frustrated to see the library closed.

"I have been relying on the library to get computer access for the past month. There's not a lot of internet cafes on island. I love the library and I have nothing but praise for the professional services of the staff. I hope they resolve all their issues and get back soon," he said.

For over two hours, the employees had to explain to arriving patrons why the library was closed.

Closed-door meeting

The employees agreed to go back inside the library for a closed-door meeting with library council members Soledad Tenorio, Rufin Inos, Frank Villagomez and chairman Mark Rabeuliman.

Ajoste later said the employees were able to air their concerns and issues with the board.

"We talked with the council members, and they asked us to go back to work, telling us they couldn't remove Gonzales from his post without going through the prescribed procedures but we will have to deal with the situation in order to continue serving the community until a resolution is reached," Ajoste said.

At 2:30 p.m. yesterday, the library was reopened and operations resumed.

Ajoste said a meeting was set for Monday next week with all library employees, library council members, representatives from the Office of Personnel Management, the Civil Service Commission, Gonzales and possibly Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

Asked for comment, Gonzales said in an email: "I'm afraid I'm unable to comment due to personnel issues being of a sensitive, confidential nature. Personnel rules and regulations provide protocols to properly address such issues internally, and NOT via an improper forum publicly."

Personnel matter

Library Council Chairman Mark Rabeuliman in a statement yesterday said the temporary closure of the public library was due to a personnel matter which, he added, is now being considered by the council.

Rabeuliman said upon notification of the walkout, the council members responded accordingly and met with the staff to resolve the issue.

He said the council members and the staff want to assure the public that library operations and services will continue as regularly scheduled.

"As this is a personnel matter, the council members want to assure the public, stakeholders, management

and staff that everything will be done to resolve the matter within the governing authority that is afforded to this board."

Press Secretary Ivan Blanco, in a separate statement, said Governor Inos is aware of the issues between the staff and John Gonzales.

"The governor is expecting to hear from the [library council] members after they meet with the staff members and the executive director separately," Blanco said in an email yesterday.

"The administration cannot provide further comment at this time, but will do so once we hear from all concerned parties. Our greatest concern is that the library remain open to serve our school children and continue to honor the names of the founding members. We hope for a speedy resolution to this situation."

Just a couple of weeks ago, the library staff sought the advice of Lt. Gov. Ralph Torres and asked that Gonzales be removed as the executive director.

Among the issues raised by the staff during their meeting with Torres were questionable purchase orders authorized by Gonzales.

Torres said he would look into this complaint.

But as for the removal of Gonzales, Torres said only the library council can hire or fire the executive director.

On February 11, a staff member tendered her resignation after she was reportedly harassed by Gonzales.

She said she filed for sick leave after giving birth on Jan. 21 and was advised by the doctor to stay home and rest until March 9.

But Gonzales called her and told her that her sick leave would not be accommodated and that she should resign.

On Feb. 11, she learned from her immediate supervisor that Gonzales had already informed the supervisor about the staff member's termination.

She said to avoid further stress, she decided to submit a resignation immediately.

MMA...

Continued from page 1

an eavesdropping warrant for Manglona, who lives in San Jose, Tinian.

The following day, operatives of the Department of Public Safety's Special Operation Section and the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force conducted a monitored controlled buy-walk operation involving Manglona on Tinian. "with negative results," according to Detective Jeffrey I. Norita, the case agent.

On Feb. 15, at 7:02 p.m., Norita said he received a call indicating that Manglona had arrived on Saipan from Tinian to resupply someone with "ice."

When interviewed, a cooperating source, or CS, told Norita that he saw Manglona's vehicle in the Tinian International Airport parking lot, and that Manglona reserved a domestic flight and left Tinian for Saipan in the afternoon hours on that same day, Feb. 15.

Authorities learned that Manglona was scheduled to return to Tinian on

the next day, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m.

At 5 p.m., Monday, SOS and DEA Task Force operatives set up a surveillance operation at the Saipan commuter terminal, and waited for Manglona, who arrived at 5:30 p.m.

DEA Task Force operative Jesse Stole attempted to talk to the defendant in the domestic terminal, but Manglona walked out and then ran toward the main terminal parking lot.

Detective Norita and Andrew Thimansaw saw DEA Task Force

operatives Stole and John Sabian together with K9 Units chasing Manglona toward the Saipan International Airport parking lot, where Manglona was eventually arrested at 5:42 p.m.

Norita said he observed Manglona discarding something from a tote bag.

Authorities processed the scene and procured Manglona's belongings including a small black handbag containing four bags of a crystalline substance.

When field tested and weighed later that same day by Sabian, the seized crystalline substance from Manglona yielded presumptive positive for methamphetamine and weighed a total of 10.1 gross grams.



George Manglona Jr.

Eating healthy is easy with fresh whole wheat pita pockets!



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Library council chairman to meet staff, Gonzales on Monday

DEPARTMENT of Commerce acting Secretary Mark Rabauliman, who is also the chairman of the CNMI Library Council, will meet on Monday with Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Executive Director John Gonzales and his staff who want him fired.

Rabauliman, in a phone interview yesterday, said it is the intent of the council to bring the two parties together and to hear both sides so they can resolve the problem.

He said it is right to give both parties due process, after which the council will make assessment "on where we go from there."

He noted that the issue is a personnel problem.

Press Secretary Ivan Blanco in an email yesterday said the administration will have a better picture to work with by next week after the meeting on Monday.

"From that meeting, the [council] will come up with recommendations to resolve the issue. By next week, the administration will have a better picture to work with. It depends on what the board recommends," Blanco said. (CAEV)



John Gonzales

Tinian gaming commission OK's Bridge Investment Group's \$150 million casino-hotel project

By Alexis Villegas Zotomayor
avz@mvariety.com
Variety News Staff

THE investors seeking to build a \$150 million, 300-room casino-hotel at Tinian Harbor have been determined suitable to receive a casino license by the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission.

TCGCC yesterday announced through Chairman Matthew C. Masga that the commission found Silvia Siu and Xianjun Meng—the two major investors in the Bridge Investment Group—as suitable investors for a casino license on Tinian.

"This is a major decision, and it is good news for both the Bridge Investment Group and the people of Tinian," said TCGCC Chairman Matthew C. Masga in a statement.

According to TCGCC, in order to obtain a license to own or operate a casino, investors need to undergo a thorough background investigation to determine whether or not they have the integrity and business acumen to run a casino.

Bridge Investment Group met with the TCGCC through its agent

Gaming Integrity Services LLC back in October 2014 agreeing on the necessary steps that BIG would take to secure a casino license.

GIS conducted interviews with American Northern Marianas Regional Center, LLC owners Silvia Siu and Xianjun Meng in December 2014 and approved their financing plans.

Masga said that the two investors hold an 80 percent equity interest in Bridge Investment Group and they went through "arduous suitability reviews in roughly three months time."

Masga said the process went smoothly.

"BIG's investors were very cooperative and expeditiously submitted the application and background documents we required," said Masga.

He said the next step for BIG and its investors is to negotiate a Section 16 Agreement on the deadlines to begin construction of the casino and other details.

The TCGCC's decision yesterday bodes well for the developer of the \$150 million Tinian Ocean View Resort.

American Northern Marianas Regional Center, LLC chief executive officer and Tinian Chamber of Commerce President Philip Mendiola Long told Variety, "With today's suitability approval by the Tinian Casino Gaming



Control Commission of two new owners of Bridge Investment Group, the Tinian Ocean View Resort can finally begin to move forward with development plans.

Bridge Investment Group has been working over the course of the last two years with the American Northern Marianas Regional Center for financing of its planned \$150 million resort."

Mendiola-Long said now that the owners of the Regional Center have been found suitable for a casino license on Tinian, "the final agreements and terms of the

financing can be arranged and forwarded to the gaming commission for approval."

He said this requires following the steps in the process.

"Part of that process required bridge investment group to take on new partners in ownership in order to move forward with financing. New partners couldn't be taken on without the approval of the gaming commission," he said.

Mendiola-Long said now that the new ownership's suitability is approved by TCGCC, "Bridge Investment Group can now move forward with closing the financing agreements and our project can finally get off the ground."

Tinian Ocean View Resort, the casino-hotel soon to rise at Tinian Harbor, will have 300 rooms, with one presidential suite, 15 other suites, and 58 executive rooms.

It will also have a 38,000-sq.-m. casino-banquet room, a wedding chapel, a fitness center, two large restaurants, a shopping arcade and a museum.

Tinian Ocean View Resort is to be constructed on an 85,000 sq. m. property on Tinian.

CHC...

Continued from page 1

Judge Wiseman presided over a show-cause hearing yesterday afternoon initiated by CUC against CHCC for contempt. The judge had to cut short the hour-long presentation of evidence by Assistant

Attorney General David Lochabay, who represents CHCC, due to a scheduling conflict.

Lochabay called to the witness stand CHCC acting chief financial officer Cora Pablo Ada, who detailed to the court CHCC's finances for the months of Oct., Nov. and Dec. 2014, and the recent fiscal year that ended Sept. 2014.

Sirok, who represents CUC, told

the court that they wanted to know, based on their subpoena of financial records, about CHCC's cash flow, revenues and expenditures for the months in question.

As of Feb. 1, 2015, CHCC owed CUC a total of \$14,686,022.18 in unpaid utility bills and late fees, court records show.

CHCC failed to pay its monthly utility billings for the months of

October, November, and December 2014 in accordance with court orders of May 29, 2014 and Jan. 20, 2015.

CHCC is now in arrears on the monthly payments required pursuant to court orders in an amount of \$1,282,663.59, not including late fees and interest for these three months, court records show.

In his motion, Sirok said, "Disconnection of utility services is

the consequence of disobeying the court's orders."

He said these unpaid billings affect the ability of the CUC to operate and provide utility services to the public.

In a Feb. 10, 2012 memorandum, CHCC identified 24 non-acute-care areas for CUC. In the event that agency decided to disconnect the hospital.

Hospital...

Continued from page 1

cannot keep on waiting. If the CEO has an issue then fix it, the hospital needs to move forward.

"There's a joke that says we go to the hospital to die, but it cannot continue to be a joke—what do we need to do to move forward? We need to have a solution. Fix it. You're the ones pulling the cord—you have the board, the CEO and the governor, so don't ask the Legislature to change the law because it might not work for you. Let's work together."

Igisomar and other lawmakers met with the advisory board for more than three hours yesterday. Lawmakers met with CEO Esther

Muna on Wednesday.

Board Chairman Jack Torres, Vice Chairman Pedro Dela Cruz, members Anthony Raho and Roy Rios appeared before the lawmakers with CHCC Director for Medical Affairs John Doyle.

Rep. Angel Demapan noted that the board itself is not unified in its position, making it harder for lawmakers to address the issues.

He advised the board to use the provision in Public Law 16-51 that allows the board to evaluate the CEO's performance.

Rep. Felicidad Ogunmoro, chairwoman of the House Committee on Health and Education, echoed Demapan's advice and told the board that can evaluate the CEO.

But Dela Cruz said Muna prevented them from calling a meeting.

They said the last meeting they had was in May 2014.

But board member Anthony Raho, a former employee of CHC and director of the pharmacy for 16 years, said it's not true that Muna prevented the board from meeting.

He said the chairman can always call a meeting whenever there is a need to do so by having four voting members agree to it.

He said he was in favor of calling for a meeting and for conducting an assessment of Muna's performance but, he added, the board did not do it.

Rep. Edwin Propst said there is a serious problem with the billing system of CHCC.

Rep. Glenn Maratita asked Dela Cruz why Tinian and Rota were excluded from the salary increase

to which Dela Cruz answered: "You are asking the wrong person. You should ask the CEO herself."

Sen. Arnold Palacios said he was the co-author of P.L. 16-51, which created CHCC as a public corporation, and he now feels sad that the hospital is in such bad shape.

He said the intent of the legislation was to establish an autonomous hospital.

But Dela Cruz noted that the statute doesn't fit the present situation.

In an interview he said: "It's hard when you have members of the board who happen to be employed and are afraid to bite the hand that feeds them. They cannot speak out against the CEO because they might be fired."

Doyle disagreed.

Raho, for his part, said some

board members expect drastic changes.

"Change will not happen overnight. When the transition happened in 2013, it was a complete disaster. No bank account, no transition report. Nothing. There are lots of issues that I would like to bring up but there's also some good things happening at CHCC. There are a lot of problems, and it's overwhelming but they're not going to be solved overnight. We have to work together to accomplish goals, but the conflict between the board and the CEO has added to the problem."

The other lawmakers who were present during the meeting were Sens. Justo Quitugua, Steve Mesngon and Teresita Santos, Reps. Edmund Villagomez, BJ Attao and Francis Taimanao.

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Kilili...

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"Of course, I will have e-mail and the phone, so I can stay in touch with my colleagues in Congress and you can stay in touch with me. And the staff here in the Northern Marianas

and in Washington never stop working whether I am there or not.

"But for two months I will not be there—at least not 100 percent.

"The doctors say I can expect a full recovery. I should return fit to work.

"In the meantime, while I get the medical care I need, I ask you for your patience and understanding."

"Most of all I ask for your prayers. Keep me in your thoughts on March 2nd and during my days of healing.

"You have my promise to keep you informed of my progress and to do what it takes to reach full recovery, so I can return well and